

## Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 GAC-01 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-04 NSC-10 OST-04 RSC-01

SCI-06 CCO-00 OTP-02 EB-11 FCC-03 OC-06 COME-00 NIC-01

OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 SS-14

AID-20 RSR-01 /158 W

----- 052789

R 291140 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1907

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 5014

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH, CH

SUBJECT: THAI INTELSAT LINK WITH CHINA

1. GOVERNMENT HOUSE SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED MARCH 28 THAT THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS APPROVED THE INITIATION OF SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE BETWEEN THAILAND AND THE PRC. THIS WAS RESULT, HE SAID, OF A REQUEST MADE BY PRC. THE MOVE WAS DESCRIBED IN THE PRESS AS PART OF A PROGRESSIVE EASING OF RELATIONS WITH THE PRC WITHOUT ANY PRECIPITOUS ABANDONMENT OF THE ROC, AND DEPUTY FONMIN CHARTCHAI WAS QUOTED IN THE PRESS AS SAYING THAT " THAILAND WILL DO EVERYTHING TO HAVE NORMAL RELATIONS WITH THE PRC SHORT OF DIPLOMATIC TIES."

2. INFORMED MFA OFFICIAL TOLD US THAT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS A RESULT OF THAILAND ( AN INTELSAT MEMBER) HAVING BEEN INFORMED BY INTELSAT THAT THE PRC WILL BE LINKED INTO THE SYSTEM WHEN THE SHANGHAI STATION IS COMPLETED IN SEPTEMBER. CONTRARY TO THE IMPRESSION GIVEN BY THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE SPOKESMAN AND THE PRESS, THIS HAS NOT INVOLVED ANY DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN THE PRC AND RTG. THE RTG HAS SIMPLY USED THE INTELSAT NOTIFICATION AS AN OPPORTUNITY

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TO PUBLICIZE THEIR INTENTION OF IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH PEKING.  
ACCORDING TO MFA OFFICIAL, THEY SEE THEIR CHINA POLICY SERVED BY  
EVENTS OR PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS, AT FAIRLY REGULAR INTERVALS,  
WHICH ILLUSTRATE THAI INTEREST IN IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH THE  
PRC.

UNGER

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BANGKO05014  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980107  
**Subject:** THAI INTELSAT LINK WITH CHINA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CH, TH  
**To:** AIT TAIPEI  
EA  
HONG KONG  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
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